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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Markus OECHSLE et al.)
Appln. No. : 09/936,516) PCT Branch
I.A. Filed : March 14, 2000)
For : DEVICE FOR DETERMINING THE)
CHARACTERISTICS OF A RUNNING)
MATERIAL)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 CFR 1.56 and in accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, the following information is brought to the attention of the Examiner for consideration during examination of the instant application.

Applicants submit herewith a copy of an International Search Report conducted in International Application No. PCT/EP00/02250, which is a counterpart of the above-captioned application. In particular, the Examiner cited the following documents:

- (1) US 5,298,122 A is listed as a category "A" document;
- (2) US 5,145,560 A is listed as a category "A" document. This document is also discussed in the IPEA 409 (in German and in English) which has already been made of record;

(3) WO 96/03616 A is listed as a category "A" document. This document is also discussed in the IPEA 409 (in German and in English) which has already been made of record.

Applicants also submit herewith a copy of the German Search Report (in German) conducted in German Application No. 199 11 395.5, which is a counterpart of the instant application. In particular the German Examiner cited:

(4) DE GM 6900009 is listed as a category "Y" document. The Examiner indicated that page 1, paragraph 1, figures 1 and 2, and page 3, paragraph 1 to page 4, paragraph 3 are relevant to claims 1-9, 15, 19, 24 and 29 of the German Application.

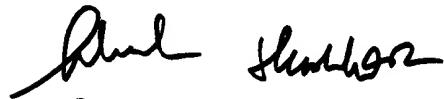
Copies of the above-listed documents including the International Search Report and the German Search Report, are enclosed as is a completed copy of the PTO-1449 Form listing these documents. Applicants note that copies of the IPEA 409 (in German and English) and the IPEA 408 (in German) have already been made of record. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to consider these documents and to indicate such consideration by returning a signed and initialed copy of the PTO-1449 Form with the first official communication.

Applicants note that this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of a national stage application. Accordingly, consideration of the enclosed document is required under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)(1).

P21470.A04

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at
the below listed number.

Respectfully submitted,
Markus OECHSLE et al.



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December 14, 2001
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